

Touchmark is ... **growing** with the community

Touchmark residents joined Edmond's mayor and other dignitaries in celebrating a "groundbreaking" of the community's \$15 million expansion, which includes the addition of memory care.

The one-level memory-care building and a three-story addition add 73,000 square feet to Touchmark. The additions are expected to be completed next year.

"This \$15 million project is almost mind-boggling for Edmond," Mayor Patrice Douglas told those gathered at the celebration.

"Touchmark, you are a good neighbor, and we are proud you chose to locate and expand here. We hope you're glad to be here and that you feel you're a part of our city, because you are integral to it." *(cont.)*



Marion Maier shows her excitement at the recent groundbreaking for Touchmark's \$15 million expansion, which will add 73,000 square feet to the community.

(cont.) Instead of the traditional groundbreaking, the community celebrated the event with the release of concrete to lay a portion of the foundation.

The executive director of the Edmond Economic Development Authority (EEDA) spoke of the enormous impact the project will have on the city.

“This expansion will bring another \$18 million to our city in the form of jobs, consumer sales, and sales tax revenues,” said Janet Yowell of EEDA. “We expect sales tax revenues alone to exceed \$500,000, which will be used to fund services and amenities in our community.”

In his remarks, Touchmark Executive Director Jamie Ham said the expansion is a symbol for the company’s commitment to expand with Edmond.

“Ever since Touchmark announced five years ago that we had been invited to become a part of Coffee Creek, we have been growing with the community,” Jamie said. “Today, 140 people live here, and more than 60 employees work around the clock.”

Jamie added, “We are here today to celebrate the next step in our growth as we expand our community and the services we offer. We know that this project will benefit local citizens and businesses, and we’re pleased to be providing opportunities for others.”

The memory-care building covers 37,908 square feet and will

include 50 private studios with full bathrooms.

It will be divided into four neighborhoods, each with 12 to 13 residences. Each neighborhood will have its own kitchen and dining area, living room, space for activities, and access to a secure outdoor courtyard. A beauty salon/barber

shop, spa baths, multipurpose room, family conference room, and doctor’s office are shared by the four neighborhoods.

The design draws on the most recent research for providing a comfortable and secure environment for people experiencing memory loss. All residences will face (cont.)



(cont.) an inviting common area decorated to create a homelike feeling. Colors and décor provide a nurturing surrounding.

“Approximately 77,000 Oklahomans have been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s,” Keili Hicks, Alzheimer’s Association advocacy and public policy coordinator for Oklahoma, said to the gathering.

“As our population ages, we expect that number to grow. The Alzheimer’s Association is the only organization dedicated to the care and support of patients and their caregivers, and we are thrilled to be able to refer them to Touchmark’s wonderful new residence.”

A new wing on the Grandview building will add 34,812 square feet of apartments for people who live independently as well as for those who need some assistance with their daily activities.

The 36 apartments will range in size and include studio; one-bedroom; two-bedroom, one-bath; and two-bedroom, two-bath designs. The architectural style and finishes will be consistent with and complement the current building.

An environmental steward, Touchmark has been purchasing 100-percent wind power for three years and will continue that commitment with the expansion. Touchmark is an EPA Green Power Leadership Club award winner and a member of the EPA’s Green Power Partnership.

The architect for the project is LRS Architects. General contractor is Weis Builders. Rick Wessell and Mark Mitchell of Touchmark Development & Construction will oversee the expansion. Stillwater National Bank is providing the funding. ■



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Going green—and making a difference



Marge Coalman, EdD
Vice President of Wellness & Programs,
Touchmark

Whether they realize it or not, when residents move to a Touchmark community, they are making a commitment to conservation of resources. Environmental sustainability is Touchmark's vision, and the individuals who work and live in the community are the changemakers who contribute to the success of reducing the carbon footprint.

In new construction and renovation projects, environmentally friendly building methods and materials, energy sources, appliances, and furnishings are selected by Touchmark Development & Construction Company, a Touchmark subsidiary that seeks out and works with local "green" architects, developers, and builders whenever possible.

Touchmark at Coffee Creek (Edmond, Oklahoma) has qualified for the EPA's voluntary Green Power Partnership program. The partnership with Edmond Electric to offer "cleaner, greener" wind power to residents significantly reduces the need for fossil fuels. In fact, their current purchase of wind power to the Grandview building is equivalent to removing 121 cars from the road for an entire year or planting 186 acres of trees, according to the EPA.

At Waterford at All Saints (Sioux Falls, South Dakota), Waterford at Harwood Groves (Fargo, North Dakota), and Waterford at Fairway Village (Vancouver, Washington), recent renovations used environmentally friendly paint, carpeting, and other materials as well as energy-efficient fixtures.

Gardeners at Touchmark on West Prospect (Appleton, Wisconsin) teamed up with volunteers for a joint gardening venture this summer. At Waterford on Saddle Drive (Helena, Montana), there is a concerted effort to recycle, headed by individual residents with the support of team members.

Each resident can contribute to the effort to "Go Green" in numerous ways. Some examples are:

- ◆ Using and reusing cloth shopping bags;
- ◆ Contributing no-longer-needed items to charitable organizations to use for fund-raising;
- ◆ Turning off lights and appliances when not in use;
- ◆ Turning down the thermostat in winter and up in summer;
- ◆ Using less water;
- ◆ Separating recyclables whenever possible;
- ◆ Taking advantage of community shuttles, buses, and other mass transportation offerings;
- ◆ Walking and cycling for better health and a healthier environment;
- ◆ Purchasing recycled products for use in the home.

Do you have other ideas for supporting a sustainable environment? Please send them to Executive Director Jamie Ham. ■

Battle on the Ping-Pong™ table



John Gardner awaits Assistant Executive Director Kelli Mitchell's serve in the first round of the Resident and Staff Ping-Pong Tournament. Kelli won this game and then was beat by Dow Dozier in the next round. A crowd gathered to nibble on popcorn and cheer on the contestants.



Business Office Manager Linda Donly and resident Faye Kelsey relax after their game. Faye beat Linda, but was upset by Brian Harris in the next round.



Dining Room Server Brian Harris (grandson of residents Leaman and Judith Harris) and Dow Dozier congratulate one another after the final game. Dow earned the title of Grand Champion!

Recent events



Community Coordinator Judy McDowell (right) shows resident Shirley Bellomy the new apartments that are being constructed as part of Touchmark's expansion.



Karen Jones (left) and Fern Rowley study a mango at the Exotic Fruit Tasting in the Shortgrass Cafe. The Life Enrichment/Wellness team provided a variety of fruits and juices—all of which were available for sampling—and shared information about each of the selections.



Shannon Martin, a pharmacist with Hospital Discount Pharmacy, reviews Fern and George Rowley's medications at a recent brown bag program. Residents were encouraged to bring their medication bottles or a list of their prescriptions, ask questions, and get information about reducing costs. Pharmacy intern Tyler Dykema is in the background.



Parkview residents Richard and Margaret Newville ride home in their patriotically decorated golf cart after a recent Out to Lunch Bunch outing.

Coming Events

Tuesday, August 11, 6:30 pm

Guest Bingo Night in the Grand Hall. Cards are two for \$1.

Wednesday, August 12, 2:30 pm

"Oklahoma" Tea in the Fireside Dining Room.

Thursday, August 13, 2 pm

A visit from Sunny the Horse. Invite your family and friends to meet and learn about this miniature horse. Grand Hall.

Friday, August 14, 9:30 am

Trip to the Oklahoma History Center for *Another HOT Oklahoma Night* rock & roll exhibit. Admission is \$4. Please sign up by Wednesday, August 12.

Thursday, August 20, 11:30 am to 2 pm

'50s Buffet. Creekside Dining Room.

Friday, August 21, 9:30 am

Outing to Territory Cellars in Stroud for lunch and to sample Oklahoma wines. Trip cost is \$5; lunch is extra. Please sign up by Wednesday, August 19.

Tuesday, August 25, 2 pm

Chaplain Stuart Malloy with Choice Home Health presents *Keeping Your Dream Alive*. Discussion will include helpful hints for discovering purpose, joy, and fulfillment throughout life. Grand Hall.

Saturday, August 29, 2 to 4 pm

Card-making class with Pam Bert of Stampin' Up. Please sign up by Thursday, August 27. South Activities Room.



Save the date!

Celebrate Active Aging Week with Touchmark! Events are planned during the week of Monday, Sept. 21 to Sunday, Sept. 27. Watch for more information to come.

Share your time and talents

Research continues on the positive impact of "giving back" in regard to the physical and emotional well-being of the volunteer.

Residents are encouraged to participate in a wide range of civic engagement opportunities, and they devote countless hours to community service for deserving programs and organizations. Touchmark also invites volunteers from the broader community to support activities and services.

Want to volunteer? Learn more by visiting our Web site or calling a member of the Life Enrichment/Wellness team.